

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USBERL 02160 171136Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-15 ACDA-10 IO-14 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DHA-02 /097 W  
-----065118 171250Z /41

R 171055Z AUG 77  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5116  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS USBERLIN 2160

E O 11652: NA  
TAGS: PINT UB GE GW  
SUBJ: QUIET ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERLIN WALL

REF: BERLIN 6789

THE 16TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERLIN WALL ON AUGUST 13, 1977, WAS MARKED IN WEST BERLIN BY ALMOST UNPRECEDENT AMOUNTS OF RAIN, BUT NO DEMONSTRATIONS OR MASS MEETINGS. IN SEVERAL WREATH-LAYING CEREMONIES - THE MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH WAS HELD BY THE BERLIN SENAT AND THE THREE POLITICAL PARTIES IN STEINPLATZ AND WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 100 PEOPLE - REPRESENTATIVES OF BERLIN'S PUBLIC LIFE REMEMBERED THE VICTIMS OF THE WALL. THE RIGHT RADICAL NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NPD) HELD A NON-PUBLIC MEETING ATTENDED BY ABOUT 70 PEOPLE WHICH WAS DISSOLVED BY THE POLICE WITH THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE ALLIES. THE ONLY INCIDENT HAPPENED AT NIGHT WHEN SOME WEST BERLINERS COVERED A PORTION OF THE WALL IN THE KREUZBERG DISTRICT WITH FLOWERED WALL-PAPER.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USBERL 02160 171136Z

ON THE EVE OF AUGUST 13, LEADING POLITICIANS RELEASED STATEMENTS CONDEMNING THE WALL AS A SYMBOL OF INHUMANITY. GOVERNING MAYOR DIETRICH STOBBE CALLED THE WALL A "PERMANENT PROVOCATION" WHICH WILL EXIST FOR A LONG TIME; BERLIN CDU DEPUTY CHAIRMAN KARL-HEINZ SCHMITZ SUGGESTED THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD PROCLAIM A "YEAR OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS." THE WEST BERLIN PRESS ROUTINELY REPORTED THE STATEMENTS

AND WREATH-LAYING CEREMONIES. ALL PAPERS CARRIED COMMENTARIES ON AUGUST 13, RECOUNTING THE HISTORY OF THE WALL AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE FOR BERLIN AND GERMANY. "NEUES DEUTSCHLAND" HOWEVER, IN A LONG EDITORIAL, PRAISED THE WALL AS "A GUARANTEE FOR PEACE IN EUROPE" AND "A CONDITION FOR SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION IN THE SENSE OF PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE."GEORGE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BERLIN WALL, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977USBERL02160  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770296-1021  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** USBERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770851/aaaabrah.tel  
**Line Count:** 69  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** f5b21759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 BERLIN 6789  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1571791  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** QUIET ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERLIN WALL  
**TAGS:** PINT, WB, GC, GE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/f5b21759-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009